GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1953
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2006
TOURISM PROJECTS IN KERALA
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Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of domestic and foreign tourists visited Kerala, Goa and Jammu and Kashmir during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Union Government has received any proposal of tourism projects for central assistance from the Government of Kerala during the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(e) the further steps taken by the Union Government for the development/promotion of tourism in Kerala?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a): The number of domestic and foreign tourists who visited Kerala, Goa and Jammu & Kashmir during the last three years is as under:

Sl No	Name of the State	2003 (Provisional)		2004		2005	
		Dome-stic	Foreign stic	Dome- stic	Foreign stic	Dome- stic	Foreign stic
1.	Goa	1725140	314357	2085729	363230	1829019	327455
2.	Kerala	5871228	294621	5972182	345546	5946423	346499
3.	J & K	5748846	24330	6881473	40242	7239481	44345

(b) and (c): Development and promotion of tourism in the country is a continuous process. Ministry of Tourism has been identifying and developing places of tourist interest in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territories. From the 10th Five Year Plan, Ministry of Tourism has been providing funds for the following schemes:

(i)Tourist Circuits

(ii)Product Infrastructure & Destination Development

(iii)Fairs and Festivals including Events

(iv)Large Revenue Generating scheme

The following projects have been prioritized for grant of Central financial assistance to Kerala during 2006-07:

Destination:

(1)Vagamon

(2)Kumarkom

(3)Padnabhapuram
Circuit:

(i)Southern Eco-Tourism

Fairs and Festivals:

1.Malabar Mahotsav

2.International Boat show

3.Elephant festival

4.Nishagandhi festival

Rural tourism:

(i)Kathakali Costume Village

(ii)Coir Village

(iii) Spice Village

The following projects have been received from the State Government of Kerala:

(a)Southern Eco-Tourism circuit

(b)Padnabhapuram Destination

(c) Malabar Mahotsav

(d) International Boat show

(e) Elephant festival

(f) Nishagandhi festival

(d): The project proposals which are received, complete in all respect, are appraised on the basis of inter-se-priority and funds released, subject to availability under the respective head. During the 10th Five Year Plan (till 2005-06), the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned projects worth Rs.9278.92 lakh for the State of Kerala.

(e): Promotion of tourism in the domestic and overseas markets is a continuous process. Ministry of Tourism promotes the places of tourist interests/spots in the country including the State of Kerala through its 20 Indiatourism offices located in India and 13 overseas, as also in the electronic, print and online media through the "Incredible India" campaign.